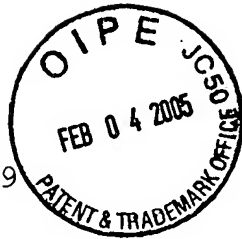


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020405 5576.1 413471/021

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: STAN A. BROWN) GROUP ART UNIT
RAFAEL ANTONIO FEMATT)
ROBERT C. BORCHERT AND) 3644
VICTOR MANUEL VIESCA)
SERIAL NO.: 10/688,036) PRIMARY EXAMINER
FILED: OCTOBER 16, 2003) SUSAN C. ALIMENTI
FOR: MILK FLOW METER FOR A MILKING)
SYSTEM HAVING A SUBSTANTIALLY)
STABLE VACUUM LEVEL AND)
METHOD FOR USING SAME)

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
P. O. BOX 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

OF THREE (3) MONTHS FOR RESPONSE TO

OFFICE ACTION AND PAYMENT OF FEE THEREFOR

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that this I hereby certify
that this correspondence is being deposited
with the United States Postal Service as
EXPRESS MAIL NO. ED414590793US in an envelope
addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and
Trademarks. P. O. Box 1450, Alexandra,
Virginia 22313-1450, on February 4, 2005

Date of Signing: February 4, 2005

Signature: *Donald J. Manning*

Date of Mailing: February 4, 2005

02/09/2005 SSITHIB1 00000136 10688036
01 FC:2253

-1-

510.00 Op

An Office Action dated August 10, 2004 was received in the above-identified Application, which set a time for response of three (3) months from the date thereof, requiring that a response be filed on or before November 10, 2004. Under 35 U.S.C. Section 133, the maximum period set for response is six (6) months.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. Section 1.136(a), the undersigned elects to extend the shortened statutory time from response by three (3) months, which extends the response date from November 10, 2004 to February 10, 2005. The Small Entity Fee set in 37 C.F.R. Section 1.17(a)(3) for responding three (3) months beyond the shortened statutory time for response is \$510.00. A check for \$510.00 is enclosed. If any additional fees are due, please charge the same to Deposit Account No. 13-2515.

Based on the above, the shortened statutory time for reply is extended three (3) months to February 10, 2005, by filing this Petition for an extension of time prior to or with the response

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due herein and payment of the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. Section
1.17(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel J. Meaney, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Daniel J. Meaney, Jr.
Registration No 22,179
Attorney for Applicants

DANIEL J. MEANEY, JR., Esq.
P. O. Box 22307
Santa Barbara, California 93121-2307
Telephone: (805) 687-6909

Dated: February 4, 2005

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